



Appl. No. 09/653,555
July 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2004

PATENT

SUBSTANTIATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This presentation of Claim 15 is provided, as an example, with cites to the record to illustrate that the claim amendments herein are all supported in the disclosure of the patent application, and that no new matter has been added. The scope of this claim is not narrowed to the cites used below and retains the breadth as written without the cites. In other words, the cites merely provide antecedent support in the detailed description of the patent application for the subject matter claimed.

15. (New) A method of sustaining the environment by converting vehicle environmental performance data into information (Spec., Page 1, Lines 1-20) that is useful both to consumers in their vehicle purchasing decisions (Spec., Page 2, Lines 23-25), and to manufacturers in enhancing marketing of vehicles for sale to said consumers (Spec., Page 34, Lines 2-10; App. B, Page 1, Background), said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining said vehicle environmental performance data (Spec., Page 15, Lines 26-32);

identifying vehicles by vehicle manufacturers, brands, and models (FIGS. 2A/2B; Spec., Page 16, Lines 6-10; Spec., Page 32-33, Lines 23-2);

identifying said vehicle models by vehicle configurations (Spec., Page 21, Line 10; App. A., Page 1; App. B, Page 14, Discussion and Conclusion);

establishing vehicle utility classes for said vehicles (Spec., Page 15, Lines 1-11);

grouping said vehicle models into said vehicle utility classes to allow evaluation of environmental performance of said vehicle models by said vehicle utility classes (Spec., Page 15, Lines 1-16);

developing forecasts of sales of said vehicle configurations by at least one of the following steps (Spec., Page 21, Lines 7-11):

obtaining said forecasts from said vehicle manufacturers (Spec., Page 21, Lines 11-14); and

estimating said forecasts (Spec., Page 21, Lines 15-18; App. A, Page 1, Note 1);

identifying vehicle environmental performance data components (App. A, Pages 1-2, Pollution Prevention, Energy Efficiency, Recycled Material Content; App. B, Page 1, Methods);

obtaining environmental performance values for said environmental performance data components by said vehicle configurations (Spec., Page 15, Lines 18-32; App. A, Page 1, General Note, etc);

developing environmental performance scores for said vehicle models by sales-weighting said environmental performance values of said environmental data components by said forecasts of sales (App. A, Pages 1-2, including Note 1);

ranking said vehicles by comparing said environmental performance scores of said vehicle models in said vehicle utility classes to identify top performers of said vehicle models in said vehicle utility classes (Spec., Page 16, Lines 27-32, Page 20, Lines 18-31; App. A, Pages 1-2, General Note, Brand/Model Award);

presenting awards to manufacturers of said top performers (Spec., Pages 16-17, Lines 30-9); and

communicating said results and said awards to said consumers (Spec., Page 9, Lines 17-20; Spec., Page 23, Step 7B).